

We claim:

1. Guide apparatus for guiding a tool along a path relative to a workpiece, said apparatus comprising a guide track; clamp means for releasably clamping said track to one side of such workpiece whereby said track defines a path to be followed by such tool; a carriage for supporting such tool and adapted to be supported by said workpiece for reciprocable movement relative thereto along said path; and slideable guide means carried by said carriage and slideably cooperating with said track for guiding such tool along said path in response to movements of said carriage.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said track is composed of multiple sections, and including coupling means for separably coupling said sections to one another in prolongation of each other.

3. The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein each of said sections comprise an elongate member forming a housing having a chamber therein, said coupling means comprising an elongate connector removably accommodated in the chamber of each of two abutting ones of said sections, and securing means releasably securing said connector to each of said adjacent ones of said sections.

4. The apparatus according to claim 3 wherein each of said sections has a plurality of walls forming

said chamber, one of said walls having an elongate slot therein through which said securing means extends.

5. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said track comprises an elongate member having walls defining a chamber, one of said walls having a slot therein extending longitudinally of said member.

6. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said track comprises an elongate member having walls defining a chamber and wherein said clamp means comprises a frame having a pair of relatively movable jaws, one of said jaws being of such size as to be accommodated in said chamber and the other of said jaws being engageable with said workpiece on that side of the latter opposite said one side, and actuating means coupled to said jaws for moving said jaws relatively toward and away one another for releasably clamping and unclamping said track to and from said workpiece.

7. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said track has walls defining a chamber enclosed by said walls, one of said walls having a socket therein in communication with said chamber, and including elongate stabilizing means having at one end thereof a projection extending through said socket into said chamber, said projection and said socket being so configured that when said projection is accommodated in said socket said projection inhibits movements of said stabilizing means inward and outward of said socket.

8. The apparatus according to claim 7 wherein said projection extends in prolongation of said stabilizing means and includes an upstanding latch which removably may be accommodated in a slot formed in another of said walls of said track.

9. The apparatus according to claim 7 wherein said stabilizing means has a channel therein adjacent said track through which said retaining flange may pass as said carriage is moved longitudinally of said track.

10. Guide apparatus for guiding a tool along a path relative to a workpiece, said apparatus comprising an elongate track having walls defining an internal chamber; clamp means at opposite ends of said track for releasably clamping said track to a workpiece in such manner that such track overlies one surface of said workpiece and defines a path; a carriage for supporting such tool and adapted to be supported on said one surface of such workpiece; slide means for slideably coupling said carriage to said track for reciprocable movements along said path; stabilizing means for minimizing movement of said track transversely of said path; and connecting means removably connecting said stabilizing means to said track and to such workpiece.

11. The apparatus according to claim 10 wherein said connecting means comprises a projection carried by said stabilizing means for insertion into said chamber

through a notch in a wall of said track, said projection when accommodated in said chamber being operable to inhibit movement of said stabilizing means transversely of said track.

12. The apparatus according to claim 10 wherein said stabilizing means has a channel adjacent said projection through which said guide flange of said carriage may pass.

13. The apparatus according to claim 10 wherein one wall of said track has a slot extending longitudinally of said track and in communication with said chamber and wherein said clamp means includes a pair of jaws, means for moving said jaws toward and away from one another, one of said jaws being of such size and shape as to be accommodated in said chamber, said one of said jaws being supported by a stem of such size as slideably to be accommodated in said slot.

14. The apparatus according to claim 13 wherein said track is composed of multiple sections extending in prolongation of one another, and including coupling means for coupling two adjacent ones of said sections together.

15. The apparatus according to claim 14 wherein said coupling means comprises an elongate body a part of which is accommodated in the chamber of one of said sections and the remainder of said body is accommodated in the chamber of the adjacent section.

16. The apparatus according to claim 15 including anchor means for anchoring said body in the respective chambers of said adjacent sections.

17. The apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said anchor means comprises a first force applying member carried by said body and bearing on one of said sections and a second force applied member carried by said body and bearing on the adjacent section.

18. The apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said force applying members are accessible via the slot in the associated track section.

19. Guide apparatus for guiding a circular saw along a path relative to a workpiece, said saw having a rotary sawblade supported on a frame, said apparatus comprising a carriage; means removably mounting the frame of said saw on said carriage; an elongate track having walls defining a chamber, one of said walls having a slot in communication with said chamber and extending longitudinally of said track; clamp means at opposite ends of said track removably clamping said track to said workpiece, whereby said track sections define said path, each said clamp means having a pair of jaws movable toward and away from one another, one of the jaws of said pair being accommodated in said track and the other of said jaws of said pair being against said workpiece and together with said one of said jaws clamping said workpiece and said track to one

another; and a guide channel on said carriage and slideably embracing said track for guiding said carriage along the path defined by said track.

20. The apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said track has a socket in one of said walls in communication with said chamber and a slot in another of said walls in communication with said chamber, a stabilizing bar having a projection at one end terminating in a tongue, said projection extending into said chamber via said socket and said tongue being accommodated in said slot in interlocking relation with said track.